

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

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TAGS: OEXC, UR, CSCE
SUBJECT: US-USSR WRITERS CONFERENCE

REF: (A) STATE 172996, (B) MOSCOW 9382

1. SOVIETS INVOLVED IN RECENT WRITERS CONFERENCE REMAIN ENTHUSIAS-
TIC IN DISCUSSING IT, PRAISING OF COUSINS' AND KETTERING FOUNDA-
TION'S EFFORTS SUPPORT DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY INITIATIVES. HOPE EX-
PRESSED THAT SERIES OF ANNUAL EXCHANGES IN OFFING, PERHAPS LEADING
TO LITERARY COUNTERPART DARTMOUTH
CONFERENCE IN PERIODICITY, SERIOUSNESS OF DISCUSSION AND SLOWLY
BROADENING EFFECT. OF PROPOSALS DISCUSSED DURING CONFERENCE, ALL
IN VARYING DEGREES CONTINUE RECEIVE LOCAL SUPPORT.

2. A FOLLOW-ON CONFERENCE IS ANTICIPATED EAGERLY, FOR SOME TIME
IN 1978. EMBASSY WOULD ENCOURAGE CU FUNDING SUPPORT.

3. THE JOINTLY PUBLISHED US-USSR MAGAZINE SUGGESTED BY VOZNESENSKY
CONTINUES TO BE A TEASE, WITH THE REALISTS WONDERING VERY MUCH OUT
LOUD HOW SELECTIONS WOULD BE MADE. WOULD, FOR EXAMPLE, THE SOVIETS
AGREE TO PUBLISH WORKS N AMERICAN EDITORIAL COMMITTEE SELECTED AS
THE MOST WORTHY? EMBASSY SUGGESTS THE IDEA IS WORTY OF DISCUSSION
TO FOCUS FUTURE CONFERENCES ON CORE PROBLEMS SEPARATING US AND
SOVIET ATTITUDES BUT THAT PRACTICAL RESULTS, I.E., A MAGAZINE,
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MIGHT BE SOME TIME AWAY.

4. MRS. DUNHAM IS GIVEN CREDIT FOR OPENING DISCUSSION ON TRANS-
LATORS CONFERENCE WHICH COULD LEAD TO ESTABLISHMENT OF EDITORIAL
BOARDS TO RECOMMEND PUBLICATION OF SPECIFIC WORKS. EMBASSY WOULD
SUPPORT CU FUNDING SUCH A CONFERENCE, IF ITS PURPOSE COULD BE DE-
FINDED WITHOUT IMPLYING PROMISE OF PUBLICATION, OR USG SUPPORT TO

ACHIEVE THIS, WHICH, INEVITABLY, SOME SOVIETS SEEM TO EXPECT.

5. SOVIETS INVOLVED IN CONFERENCE CONTINUE ASCRIBE EXCLUSION
ACAO ROBERT MILLER FROM CONFERENCE AS DUE FEDORENKO'S OWN DECISION,
WHICH NO ONE COULD CONTRAVENE. BONDARENKO'S DEFINITION OF PORNOGRA-
PHY IS SAID NOT TO HAVE BEEN INTENDED AS CRITICISM OF US LITERARY
CREATIVITY IN GENERAL BUT AS A COMMENT ON THE UNSOPHISTICATION OF
THE MASS SOVIET AUDIENCE, WHICH "WOULD NOT UNDERSTAND" SO MANY OF
THE US'S MOST POPULAR "AND EVEN WORTHWHILE" WORKS. IN ANY EVENT,
IT IS ADMITTED THAT BONDARENKO STATED HIS CASE WITH UNNECESSARY
VIGOR.
TOON

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